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Mr. DeLoach	
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Miss Holmes	
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G. I. R. 10

No compromise in sight—

Citizens Council split

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virtually halts growth

BY EDWIN STRICKLAND, News staff writer
split over personalities and policy within the North Alabama Citizens Councils has virtually halted the growth of the anti-integration group in Birmingham.

The division goes deep and there appears to be no compromise.

Central figure in the controversy is Asa Carter, who still holds the position of executive secretary though some of the membership and leaders have repudiated him.

The organization was growing in the state by the thousands every week until March 20, when the North Alabama group held its rally at Municipal Auditorium.

RETIRED ADM. JOHN CROMMELIN was one speaker and Carter the other.

Carter made his stock speech, with a few embellishments. He called for immediate impeachment of Gov. James E. Folsom and strongly suggested that Dr. O. C. Carmichael, president of the University of Alabama, should be removed for his handling of the Autherine Lucy case.

THE SPEECH was capped by the circulation of a petition calling for Folsom's impeachment.

There, according to those in the know, Carter stepped too far. Not because most of the Citizens Council members were pro-Folsom. Not because most of the members might not have liked to see Folsom out of office. He is blamed by the council leadership for a good part of the segregation trouble that has occurred in Alabama.

Right or wrong, they lay at the governor's door a part of the responsibility for the Montgomery bus boycott, pointing out that he entertained Congressman Powell, of New York, a Negro leader whose visit to Montgomery preceded the opening of the boycott by a week.

But cautious leadership in the Citizens Councils had advised against the impeachment move at that time. As a matter of fact, the matter had been roughly discussed at a closed meeting of the board of directors just two nights prior to the rally.

While a large number of the board members opposed the move at that time, they were not advised that a pro-Carter faction already had printed

the petitions and that they would be circulated regardless of any decision by the board.

ONE OF THOSE known to have been in strong opposition to the circulating of impeachment petitions at that time was Ted Hagen, who was chairman of the strong Eastern Section Citizens Council.

Hagen did not learn until just hours before the rally that the petition would be circulated anyway.

He did not sit on the speaker's stand that night.

Since the date of the rally, it was learned, there have been hardly more than half a dozen new members added to the Eastern Section Citizens Council. Just prior to that time the membership in that group had been growing at an average of more than 60 per day.

BUT THE RIFT over Carter's policies started even before the rally on March 9.

As early as Jan. 16, Carter, in a speech, made remarks about the FBI to which many members objected. These remarks were blamed by some with keeping prospective members out of the council.

On Jan. 26, Carter Hagen, and others visited Dean William F. Adams at the University of Alabama to discuss the problem of Negroes seeking admittance to the school. Dean Adams was assured of support by the council.

Later, Carter was accused of violating a confidence by disclosing confidential matters which had been discussed at that conference.

ON FEB. 5, the North Alabama office of the council was set up. Hagen was the only man with a positive vote at that time.

On that occasion, Carter first brought up the idea of a petition for impeachment of the governor. Chairman Hagen voted to postpone it.

Three councils and one provisional council from Bessemer were represented at that meeting.

On Feb. 8, the board of directors of the Eastern section Council met and decided to enlist legal advice on impeachment of the governor, though the consensus was such a move was impractical at that time.

THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS
Birmingham, Alabama
April 6, 1956
Red Star Final.

NORTH ALABAMA CITIZENS COUNCILS.
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JUST PRIOR to a meeting of the councils at the Coliseum in Montgomery on Feb. 10, a discussion was had on setting up a state-wide organization of the North Alabama Citizens Councils. Later a temporary organization was set up in Montgomery.

Shortly thereafter, a North Alabama organizing team, which included Carter and Norris Dixon, secretary of the group, went to Tuscaloosa. There representations were made that the North Alabama office was a state organization. This statement by Carter was challenged by both Dixon and Leonard Wilson, who was a student at the University.

Carter next made an announcement of a rally at the Auditorium. That was the famous March 9 meeting. It was supposed to be under sponsorship of The Southerner Magazine, and it was advertised that a nationally known speaker would be present.

No officer of the Eastern Section Council, the largest in Jefferson County, was consulted about the meeting.

The Southerner Magazine, incidentally, is not owned or controlled by the councils and they have no authority over its editorial policy or content.

SEVERAL MEETINGS of the board of directors were held prior to the March 9 rally. At least two of them were not called by Chairman Hagen, but were presided over by Carter and another council officer.

Such special meetings, according to the charter setting up the councils, can be called only by the chairman.

Then on March 7, the meeting was held to discuss the rally two nights later. The board voted in the majority, after long argument, not to circulate the impeachment petitions, which were, nevertheless, circulated two nights later.

THREE THINGS seem to be at the root of the split:

1. The provision for membership (set up by Carter) of the belief in the divinity of Jesus Christ.
2. The handling of the impeachment petitions.
3. The attacks by Carter on Dr. Carmichael and the Board of trustees of the University of Alabama.

The first objection was labeled as "anti-Jewish" by those who opposed it. They say the only purpose of the councils is to fight integration by lawful means.

ANOTHER BONE of contention among some of the officers and membership of the councils has been that they were not informed of many of Carter's actions until after he had made them on his own.

As of Feb. 5, he became a paid employe of the North Alabama Councils as the executive secretary.

But prior to that Carter had been acting under cover of council authority and signing letters as executive secretary.

One such case was a bulletin dated Dec. 14, 1955, in which he made reference to a beer manufacturing concern as having been a contributor to NAACP.

LEADERS OF the big Associated Citizens Councils of Alabama, such as Macon Sen. Sam Englehart, have publicly opposed Carter's stand on membership requirements which exclude persons of Jewish faith.

The fight is far from over. The next scheduled meeting of the Eastern Section Councils is on April 19. But prior to that, it was learned, there will be a special meeting on April 10 at Cascade Plunge by the anti-Carter membership of the council. Admittance to that meeting will be only by a special, written invitation.

The first big break came when Chairman Hagen, Secretary Dixon and a large delegation of membership walked out of a meeting at Cascade Plunge when Carter got up to speak.

THE CURRENT TROUBLE within the councils does not mean a lessening of the council's fight on integration. The anti-Carter faction is expected to try first to gain the undisputed control of the large Eastern Section Council.

But if they are not successful, they will form a new council in that area.

Leaders of the insurgent group say they are confident of taking 75 per cent of the membership with them.

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Up to Alabama

The North Alabama White Citizens' Council denies, as expected, having anything to do with the cowardly attack on the Negro entertainer Nat (King) Cole at his performance in the Birmingham Municipal Auditorium. Yet one of the attackers was a director of the Citizens' Council in Anniston and three of the five others were from the same city. Is that sheer coincidence?

The six offenders are under arrest, two on a charge of assault with intent to murder, and four charged with conspiracy. Americans who remember the inadequate investigation of the Till slaying in Mississippi will look to the Alabama authorities for a fuller discharge of their sworn duties.

Thorough investigation should disclose with what individuals the guilt lies and the role of the Ku-Klux-like Citizens' Councils formed to fight the Supreme Court's integration edict with economic pressures.

Title: NORTH ALABAMA WHITE
CITIZENS COUNCIL
Character: CIVIL RIGHTS
MATTER
ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Date: April 13, 1956

Edition: Final ***

Author:

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North

(COUNCILS)

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.--ASA (ACE) CARTER, FIERY ALABAMA CITIZENS COUNCIL LEADER, REPORTED FORMATION OF STATE COUNCILS IN MICHIGAN AND GEORGIA. HE SAID THEY WOULD BE DIRECTED FROM HIS "NATIONAL" OFFICE HERE.

CARTER SAID HIS OFFICE HERE IS NOW A "NATIONAL COUNCIL OFFICE" KNOWN AS THE "ALABAMA NATIONAL CITIZENS COUNCIL." HE SAID COUNCILS IN THE THREE STATES WOULD WORK TOGETHER UNDER THE NEW ORGANIZATION.

THE WHITE SUPREMACIST, TERMED A "FASCIST" BY RIVAL COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ALABAMA, SAID HE FORMED THE MICHIGAN ORGANIZATION EARLY THIS MONTH. ITS ADDRESS, HE SAID, IS POST OFFICE BOX 148, DEARBORN. HE ADDED IT IS THE FIRST TIME THE COUNCIL MOVEMENT HAS PENETRATED THE NORTH

THE GEORGIA COUNCIL, CARTER SAID, WILL HAVE ITS HEADQUARTERS IN ATLANTA. HE SAID ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE SOON OF THE GROUP'S FIRST PUBLIC RALLY.

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LETTERS FROM READERS

Comments On Attacks On 'Rock And Roll'

DETROIT, Mich.

Editor, Feature Section:

On May 9, you asked us, the readers, to comment "on all phases of culture." I should like to take this time to express my own personal opinion on Rock and Roll, which is somewhat of a phenomenon in the sense that vast numbers of teenagers have expressed a liking for it.

I'd like to state at the outset that I like Rock and Roll music, but it is not my intention to convince anyone to either like or dislike it. That, I feel, is up to one's individual like or dislike of it. That, I feel, is up to one's individual tastes, likes, and dislikes, conditioned by a number of factors. What I want to do is to inform you and your readers of certain facts surrounding Rock and Roll and also to express my views.

In recent months there has appeared in various publications and on several radio programs a series of attacks on rock and roll music. These attacks usually run this way: A disc jockey will compare a Rock and Roll record with music of the 40s or the 30s—Benny Goodman, Perry Como, Duke Ellington, etc. There are usually two arguments—Rock and Roll doesn't have any meaning or the lyrics are suggestive.

In my opinion neither argument holds water when weighed against other popular music dating way back to dixieland jazz or even before. What is the meaning of 'Old Black Magic' or any of a million odd tin pan alley songs other than boy meets girl or somebody left somebody else and he's blue. This is the idea in almost every Rock and Roll record.

On the second argument—it is true that a very few R & R songs contain suggestive lyrics, but there is a popular song out now entitled 'Too Close For Comfort' which is highly suggestive and yet these same voices that attack R & R are silent on this count. Before anyone gets their dander up, I ask that they think back on popular music generally before they speak, and see how many have suggestive lyrics.

Another view holds that R & R causes or contributes to juvenile delinquency. An example is given—youths leaving an R & R show in N. Y. tore up the subway. What is conveniently left out is the fact

that close to 10,000 young people attended this particular show and only twelve got into trouble. This plus the fact that these shows have been going all over the U.S.A. and there has been no unusual incidents of trouble.

The attack on R & R in Detroit culminated recently in a radio station dismissing its top disc jockey Mickey Shorr when he was at his peak. He happened to be plugging R & R music. The disc jockey who replaced him very rarely plays this type of music even though it is currently the big thing here.

As for Daily Worker readers—I point to two things. I feel these attacks are unwarranted and an attempt to dictate to this generation what type of music they shall listen to. In Detroit, this is coupled with an attack on moral grounds on the dance called 'The Chicken.' I assure you it is less immoral than the ordinary 'two step,' because there is no body contact.

Furthermore, I feel that these attacks generally are based on prejudiced ideas because the music derives from a minority group (Negroes) and because it has contributed to better race relations.

The Mayor of Galveston, Texas, recently asked that the cops there try to do something about interracial dancing at R & R dances.

Also 'Ace' Carter, president of the North Ala. White Citizen's Council announced that they were going to conduct a campaign against R & R because it is an NAACP plot to corrupt the morals of white teenagers. This group attacked Nat Cole, even though he is not a R & R singer.

There are many examples of police officials, board of education officials and others attempting to dictate to the youth, what to listen to and how to dance.

As far as the argument of comparing it with folk music or people's music or labor songs, all I say is variety is the spice of life.

I conclude with this quote from Harry Belafonte who when asked if there was any similarity between folk music and R & R, said: "There sure is. They're very closely related. Rock n Roll stems from the roots of folk music, both with the beat and the lyrics—no doubt about it." This is Belafonte's opinion—not mine. I throw it in to stir up some more controversy. Let's hear from some squares.

Sincerely, Pete.

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CITIZENS' COUNCILS TRY TO SAVE SLIPPING 'WHITE SUPREMACY'

By ADAM LAPIN

Sam Engelhardt, Jr., had made the same statement thousands of times before, but a gleam came into his hard eyes set deep in his lean, almost gaunt face as he said that the trouble in Montgomery was all the fault of "outside agitators." "It's all the fault of the NAACP, coming in and stirring things up," he said.

"I have no trouble with my people working for me and we get along fine."

Engelhardt, executive secretary of the White Citizens Councils of Alabama, had started with painful care to speak of Negroes. But the effort was too much for him. Soon he was referring to "nigras" as a compromise, and before long he relaxed to the more familiar usage of the Southern racists.

Engelhardt is a planter—as are most of the big wheels of the Citizens Councils in the deep South. His plantation is medium-sized.

He is a state senator, and the leader of the white supremacy bloc in the legislature.

He is the man who kept putting the heat on the Montgomery subsidiary of National City Lines to hold firm against the bus boycott. He has Mayor W. A. Gale and the city commissioners under his thumbs. They are all members of the White Council.

NOT LOOKING for trouble in tense Montgomery, I introduced myself to Engelhardt as a reporter for "The Daily World of San Francisco."

"I read The Daily World," Engelhardt said poker-faced. He does, too. He filled me in on a couple of news items I had missed about funds being raised in Los Angeles for the Montgomery boycott.

He knew he was wasting his time. But once started, he found it difficult to stop agitating for white

supremacy.

Handing us copies of literature, he said there are 65 White Citizens Councils in the state. But he didn't seem to think his claim of 75,000 membership was quite impressive enough. He said he expected it to double in a year.

Asked how he thought the boycott would end, he said:

"It will break down because of quarrels among the leaders."

He indicated the tactics he is using in an effort to divide the Negro community when he referred to Rev. Martin Luther King leader of the boycott, as "Cadillac King."

THAT night I got a chance to test his hope against the reality of a meeting in the Day Street Baptist Church thronged by almost 5,000 Negroes, representing every sector of the community, voicing an inspired unity and a boundless determination to continue the boycott until victory.

"There will be no integration in the South," Engelhardt kept re-

peating.

But it turned out that he wasn't quite so sure.

Apparently anticipating an adverse federal court ruling on Montgomery and Alabama bus segregation laws, he said through tight lips:

"If the court rules against segregation, there will be no public transportation."

"What do you think of integration in the armed forces?"

"We don't like it," he says. He means it, too, considering that Montgomery is ringed with integrated Army and Air Force camps.

"What do you think of integration in the Post Office?"

"Well, it isn't complete there," he said glumly.

Quite willing to talk about most of his activities, Engelhardt turns coy, however, when the subject turns to the role of the Citizens Councils in politics.

"We don't enter elections as such," he says.

BUT FOUR days later The Montgomery Advertiser runs a full-page ad inserted by the Montgomery Citizens Council "as a public service."

The ad consisted of answers by various candidates asking these questions among others:

"Are you for mixing whites and negroes (that's the way it appears in the ad—A.L.) in our schools?"

"Have you or will you solicit the negro vote?"

"Do you here and now deny the negro vote?"

"Do you here and now say to the negro that you do not want

IN THE POLL TAX STATES -

6 MILLION WHITES

4 MILLION NEGROES

CANT VOTE

JUN 1 1956

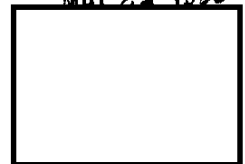
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WAITING TO VOTE



Voters line up, after emancipation to cast their first ballots.

AND NOW

Another first ballot—in Georgia—after repeal of white primary laws in 1944.



his vote?"

One candidate for state legislator, a candidate for Democratic national convention delegate replied in a letter along with his answers:

"Sam Engelhardt has served with me for two terms, and Sam knows where I stand on the race question."

★

FOLSOM was bitterly criticized by the Citizens Councils for his refusal to answer the questionnaire.

An ad on behalf of Folsom's opponent in The Greenville Advocate said:

"Show Big Jim Folsom, the 'Darling of the NAACP,' how you feel about segregation and mongrelization."

Engelhardt was willing to make only one political comment:

"I hear King wants to run for Congress."

Asked how he felt about Negroes voting, he said:

"I don't mind their voting, if they can qualify."

Two days later we were in Tuskegee, seat of the great educational institute, and got a better idea about what he meant when he said "if they can qualify."

★

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE and the largely Negro town by the same name are in Macon county which Engelhardt represents in the state senate.

A Negro professor tells us: "Macon County is 84 percent Negro. But only 900 Negroes are allowed to vote. To keep Negroes from voting there has been no registration for three years. The board of registrars was just abolished."

"Of course this penalizes whites as well as Negroes. There are now

only 2,200 registered white voters in the county." (Total population in the county is 30,561).

That's how Sam Engelhardt gets elected to the state senate—and that's how he intends to keep it.

But for all his power and cockiness, Engelhardt seemed curiously defensive.

He kept emphasizing that the White Citizens Councils are against anti-Semitism and oppose violence.

I should explain that this hard-faced bigot represents the more respectable and conservative wing

of the white supremacist movement.

THE EXTREME elements among the racists have joined up with the Northern Alabama Citizens Council, headed by Asa Carter. This was the outfit that instigated the attack on Nat (King) Cole in Birmingham.

Upholding the inalienable right of all persons of white skin to be anti-Negro, Engelhardt says:

"We have no use for Asa Carter and his group. They go in for anti-Semitism. We take in white people of any religion."

"We're against any violence," he keeps repeating.

This is not just for our benefit. It reflects one of the real problems facing the White Citizens Council movement.

To make headway, it needs rabble-rousing, incitement of race hatred, appeals to ignorance and bigotry.

It also needs violence—or at least the threat of violence—to intimidate the Negroes.

But when its propaganda reaps results, there is a kick-back from

some newspapers and from many ordinary white people. The Nat King Cole incident, for example, didn't sit well in Alabama.

SO THE ENGELHARDT crowd puts out inflammatory appeals which incite violence such as one in an official leaflet he handed me saying:

"If we submit to this unconstitutional, judge-made integration law, the malignant powers of atheism, communism and mongrelization will surely follow. . . ."

There is another reason for the defensive tone of some of Engelhardt's statements. He is aware of not only of the growing strength of the Negro people and opposition to the White Citizens Councils in the North but also of the fact that many white people in the South, for whom Folsom speaks, oppose the hatred and violence bred by the councils.

As we leave his office, Engelhardt doesn't offer to shake hands. Neither do we. But he says:

"Don't be too hard on us."
(To Be Continued in Monday's Daily Worker)

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**White Citizens Sue
 Montgomery Paper**

MONTGOMERY, Ala., July 13 (AP).—A \$150,000 damage suit was filed yesterday against the Montgomery Advertiser by Asa E. Carter, head of a Birmingham White Citizens Council group.

The suit is based on an editorial in the June 8 edition of the Morning Advertiser, and claims damages for "falsely and maliciously publishing" the article "with intent to defame."

The Advertiser editorial which resulted in the suit commented on the formation of a council chapter in Washington, D. C., by Mr. Carter's organization.

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Racists Cheer Anti-Semite

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — In an anti-Semitic tirade, retired Rear Admiral John G. Crommelin assailed Sen. Herbert Lehman, Justice Felix Frankfurter and an unidentified Arthur Spanger, for being "behind" the fight against segregation.

Crommelin, trounced in recent Senatorial elections, delivered his vituperation at a poorly attended rally of the racist White Citizens Council.

"Don't you know it's their kind of people behind this mess?" Crommelin thundered, red-faced, to the gleeful shouting of 300 people.

"If the Rock of Gibraltar—and by that I mean constitutional segregation—is taken off the books, Alabama would leave itself open to integration in the schools," he direly predicted, then spewed further:

"We've got to keep this last frontier of the real Anglo-Saxon race—and if I am wrong, my name's Finklestein."

Crommelin retired in 1949 after a public reprimand from the Navy for leaking confidential documents while fighting armed forces unification policies.

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Date AUG 25 1956

Carter, Rock 'n Roll Foe, Thrives on Race Discord

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Sept. 1 (AP).—Asa E. (Ace) Carter is a handsome former local radio commentator who has used racial conflict as a springboard to leadership of a pro-segregation group. Carter, whose fiery address at Clinton, Tenn., last night was followed by an anti-Negro disorder, is head of the Alabama White Citizens Council.

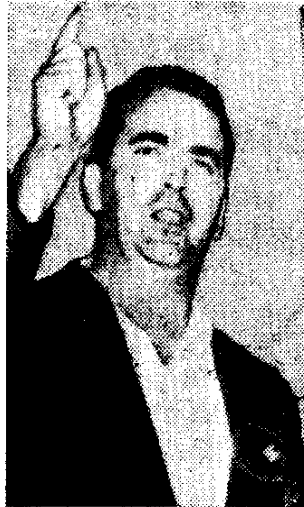
The organization is one of many dedicated to maintaining segregation and States rights which have sprung up since the May, 1954, Supreme Court decision that segregation in public schools is unconstitutional. Carter helped organize the Washington Citizens Council headed by John Kasper, accused of stirring up the Clinton race trouble.

Carter's organization is limited to white Christians, and has been accused of anti-Semitism which he denies. The group probably has drawn greater attention than any other council organization by a crusade which is a side issue from its major purpose—a campaign against "rock 'n' roll" music. Members of the Carter council then known as the Alabama White Citizens Council — attacked Negro vocalist Nat (King) Cole while he was singing before a white audience of 4,000 persons here last April 10. After their arrest, Carter

launched a "white people's defense fund" to raise money for their legal expenses. Carter has charged repeatedly in speeches that "rock 'n' roll" music is morally degenerating for white teen-agers. His organization has tried by persuasion to get what he calls "Negro music" removed from juke boxes and radio programs, but with no apparent success.

Carter's group is at odds with the Association of Alabama Citizens Councils, which has its greatest strength in agricultural central Alabama where the proportion of Negro population is largest. The Carter organization has most of its member in the Birmingham area.

Spokesmen for the other group say Carter's organization is hurting their cause by its membership requirements, and by taking up side issues like "rock 'n' roll."



ASA E. CARTER
Assails Integration
—AP Wirephoto

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Rally Called Off, Pressure Charged

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Sept. 17 (AP).—The head of the Alabama White Citizens Council said yesterday "pressure" had been exerted to keep from speaking in Montgomery a segregationist who says "we need all the rabble-rousers we can get."

Asa E. Carter said a rally scheduled for Montgomery yesterday, at which he and John Kasper, were to have spoken had to be canceled because of the pressure.

Mr. Kasper, a former Washington and New York bookshop operator, told a group near Birmingham Friday night and repeated Saturday that a "roving force" was needed to combat integration attempts.

Mr. Carter said he was told by persons in Montgomery that it was necessary to obtain the "blessing" of State Senator Sam Engelhardt of Macon in order to obtain a place to hold a rally there. Mr. Engelhardt is executive secretary of the Citizens Councils of Alabama, a group that has remained aloof from Mr. Carter's segregationist activities.

Mr. Carter said he and Mr. Kasper will speak at Wetumpka tonight.

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JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES

Two-Step Of Death

*"It is sweet to dance to violins
When love and life are fair
To dance to lutes, to dance to flutes,
Is delicate and rare—
But it is not sweet with nimble feet
To dance upon the air."*

ARE LABOR and management in a deadly two-step of death-by-inflation? Ike warned of it in the State of the Union speech.

What, you wonder, does Big Steel, with its magnificent American record, propose?

UNDER ALL STILL, in spite of what's in the air and on the sea, is the land — as the philosopher said. Similarly, in spite of substitute metals, basic to all still is steel. It stood out in testimony Friday of President Clifford F. Hood, of the steel corporation, before the Senate's Public Works subcommittee on public roads (to which Steel's Steve McGinnis calls my attention). People don't tend to think of steel as involved in highway construction, for example but it is. Many types of it are used. The four most important, Mr. Hood said, are structural, plates, wire mesh and concrete reinforcing bars.



OF THE ABILITY of the steel industry to meet the challenge of the federal highway program and other tests of these teeming

days of American economic supremacy, Mr. Hood has no doubt. During all of World War II, he said, "no American military project was ever impaired by a shortage of steel." As a result of the "vast program of modernization and expansion" at the beginning of that war, he said, American steel companies have added 51 million, or 61 per cent to their pre-war capacity (about 12 million of this is Big Steel's) the increase alone very nearly equals Russia's entire steel-making total of 54 million tons. Our national capacity now is 133 million tons, increasing five million a year.

AS TO STEEL'S part in the inflation threat, Mr. Hood said only about 5 per cent of the federal highway dollar would be for steel. The 12 per cent increase in steel prices in the last 18 months means "little more than one-half of one per cent in the total cost of constructing a highway." But he doesn't minimize the inflation threat, he said.

IT WOULD BE interesting to know his solution to the deadly wage-price spiral for the answer lies with him and his associates more than with anyone else. No matter how big or small an item steel may be in this and that operation, it is the under-all of our economy. And Mr. Hood's company is the bellwether, the "X" on stock market boards.

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER pointed out that the government alone can't save us unless labor and management call off this dance of wage increases paid for, not in productivity, but in increased prices.

IT IS A two-step of economic death. How can we stop the music?

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BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD
Birmingham, Alabama
January 30, 1957
Final Edition

KLAN INFILTRATION INTO
ALABAMA CITIZENS
COUNCIL.
IS - X.

File // BUFILE 105-45763

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198 FEB 1 1957

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* * *
THEY THINK they are de-
fenders of the faith and ~~visions~~
of the South—these dupes of
their own dynamite who are set-
ting the Rev. Martin Luther
King up in business with every
stick.

He may not be a great leader
of his people but he is greatly
blessed with stupidity on the
other side. His biggest helpers
are those who are hell-bent to
make him a hero in the sight of
his people and the nation by let-
ting him defy their dynamite
while thousands cheer.

* * *
THESE "SAVIORS of the
South" can't count.

If they could they would see
that when it comes to force they
haven't got a chance. They are
overwhelmingly outnumbered.
They have not only a nation
against them but a great major-
ity of their own South.

* * *
"ALABAMA Should End
'Carterism' vows The Shreve-
port Times in a leading editorial.
The proper term is "Carter-Kas-
perism." The Times well-says
that "Carter and the Klan and
the North Alabama White Citi-
zens Council already have
brought disgrace and trouble to
the South . . . He and those who
conduct themselves as he and
his groups do constitute one of
the biggest handicaps which the
South faces today in its effort
to retain segregation."

* * *
IF THE TIMES could come
over here and see how Carter's
following has been decimated
since his methods began to be
denounced here, what small
punkins he is now in spite of a
national press and wireless that
love to play him and his brawls
up, it would congratulate us
rather than lecture us.

The Carter-Kasper menace
now is in areas where they are
not so known for their pasts and
their foolish knighteries.

Citizens Councils Repudiate Carter

The Citizens Councils of Alabama and the Citizens Councils of America both have repudiated Asa Carter, the gun-shooting Ku Klux Klansman of Alabama who also heads a small group of rabid racial organizations which have taken the name "North Alabama White Citizens Councils."

Carter now is facing trial in Birmingham for shooting two fellow Klansmen who, at a Klan meeting, sought to find out what he was doing with Klan money. The shooting had no racial aspect except that it was indicative of the type of persons who are combining Klan and so-called "Citizens Councils" activities along lines dangerously damaging to the South and its segregation cause—and reflecting on the mass of south-wide Citizens Councils not in any way involved with Carter's councils.

Carter actually has very little strength in Alabama either in his Klan groups or his anti-Negro organizations but his activities are such that he frequently gets nationwide publicity of the type brought by the Klan shooting. Unfortunately, in other parts of the nation, the fact that Carter heads an organization containing the words "Citizens Council" carries the impression to many that he and his handful of "Councils" are part of and representative of the thousands of Citizens Councils throughout the South which condemn his methods and which have the objective of preserving Southern segregation by proper and legal means.

In Alabama and in much of the South Carter and his gangs are understood, repudiated, and looked upon with disgust. But he and some of his colleagues, notably a rabid racist by the name of John Kasper, have been moving of late into states other than Alabama—particularly Florida, Tennessee, Virginia and the District of Columbia—with their Klan-type of organization under the name of "White Citizens Councils." (Virtually none of the mass of Southern Citizens' Councils include the word "white" in their names.)

The Carter activities uphold a conten-

tion by *The Times* when the Citizens Councils first were being organized through the South: That in their greatest strength also lay their greatest weakness and danger; that is, that the autonomy of each Citizens Council, preventing any overall organization or committee from dictating to it, was a point of strength, but that this also opened the way for individual Councils, formed in an atmosphere of Klanism, to carry on activities that would bring nationwide discredit to and misunderstanding about the Citizens Councils movement. The only protective step the properly conducted Councils could take is renunciation and denunciation by their state organizations and their national organization, and that has been the case now with Carter and Kasper.

Sam M. Engelhardt, Jr., president of the Citizens Councils of America and executive secretary of the Citizens Councils of Alabama, states that not only have both organizations repudiated Carter and Kasper but that the national press associations have been so notified and have been requested to separate the activities of the Carter groups from the Citizens Councils of America and the state Citizens Councils groups that make up the national group.

The Shreveport Citizens Council has been active in calling for repudiation of the Carter groups. Paul R. Davis, vice president of the local group, recently wrote Mr. Engelhardt concerning the attitude of the Shreveport organization toward "Carterism." Enclosing an editorial from *The Times* on Jan. 25 on "Carterism," Mr. Davis said in part:

"Those of us who have been closely associated with the Council movement certainly are as strongly against the methods used by Asa Carter and John Kasper as is the writer of this editorial ('Alabama Should End 'Carterism'', *The Shreveport Times*, Jan. 25, 1957) and on several occasions we have discussed among ourselves the best things to do to remedy this situation.

"In the early stages of the activities of the two men, I believe many of us felt that to openly oppose them would

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Alabama Citizens Council

BAUNGARDNER

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THE SHREVEPORT TIMES
SHREVEPORT, LA.

1/31/57

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be to strengthen them.

"However, many of us here are of the opinion that we should make a statement to the public and to the press that these men are outlaws as far as the sound, substantial Citizens Council movement is concerned.

"It would seem that this announcement might well be made by you as president of the Citizens Councils of America in order that a positive refutation can be made of any insinuation that our good, clean movement may be associated with such activities as those of Carter and Kasper.

"I believe that was the purpose of our organizing the Citizens Councils of America: to establish a yard stick whereby eligible organizations could participate and by the same token to openly outlaw the splinter groups who would attempt to infiltrate and divide us."

The steps of repudiation urged by Mr. Davis of the local Citizens Council have, of course, been taken.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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Carter qualified as candidate for City Commission

The qualifications of Asa Earl Carter as candidate for City Commission was accepted today by the election subcommittee of the Jefferson County Democratic Executive Commission.

Clerk H. A. Thompson said the qualifications of four other commission candidates were accepted earlier. The committee meets every few days, Thompson said.

Carter, indicted Friday by the Jefferson Grand Jury on two counts of assault with intent to murder, is running for public safety commissioner against incumbent R. E. Lindbergh and former City Commissioner Wade Bradley.

THE ELECTION subcommittee, after a brief meeting in the sheriff's office, issued a short statement saying the qualifications of all candidates qualifying so far have been accepted.

The statement went on to say that "under the law there is no cause known to the committee for refusing to qualify any candidate so far submitting."

"HOWEVER, by such acceptance the committee does not by any means approve or recommend to the voters all of the candidates so qualified since this is not the committee's function."

This statement was signed by Earle J. Ellis, committee chairman.

At the same meeting the committee also approved the qualifications of Earl Bruner. Bruner, former county commissioner, will oppose Mayor James W. Morgan for president of the City Commission.

THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS
Birmingham, Alabama
February 11, 1957
Red Star Final

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KLAN INFILTRATION INTO
ALABAMA CITIZENS COUNCIL.
IS - X.

BAKER

Carter files for commission

Asa E. Carter, secretary of the Alabama Citizens Councils, today qualified to oppose Public Safety Commissioner Robert E. Lindbergh, in the coming City Commission race.

Carter had said earlier that he planned to make the race, but put off his qualifying after he was arrested on two charges of assault with intent to murder following the shooting of two men at a Klux Klan meeting in Central Park, Jan. 9.

THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS
Birmingham, Alabama
February 8, 1957
Front Page
Red Star Final

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KLAN INFILTRATION INTO
ALABAMA CITIZENS COUNCIL.
IS - X.

Before YMBC—

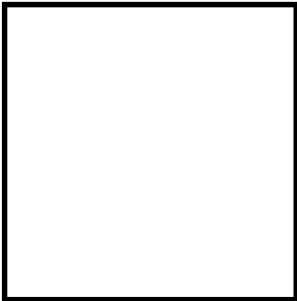
Candidates for commission post outline their views

By Frank Strickland
News Staff Writer
A four week and more than
a dozen candidates for the
commissioner in the
Young Men's Busi-
ness League candidates for pub-
lic safety commissioner in the

Max F. Demetrius, primary elec-
tion
Some of those seeking to un-
derstand Public Safety Commissioner
Tom Munchbach's work place in
this way the Police Department
is being run, as this slow-start
race began to move.

pointed to his experience in law
enforcement work.
"Working conditions and sal-
aries paid in the Police Depart-
ment are woefully inadequate,"
asserted Bradley.

COMMISSIONERS: Lindbergh
also mentioned in committee by
former Public Improvements
Commissioner W. G. Bradley,
Joe C. Harris, E. and Ann Carter,
who spoke in that order, de-
clared.
"I didn't come here to answer
anybody's questions about the way the
Police Department is operated."
Then Lindbergh cited accom-
plishments in Police and Fire
Departments and public schools
state in that office saying, "The
crime department today that I was
two years ago. Now I've got a
report to the board for which
I received a promotion."
Lindbergh, who has not been
speech-making at the club's Red
men's meal luncheon yesterday.



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THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS
Birmingham, Alabama
April 2, 1957
Red Star Final

**KLAN INFILTRATION OF THE
ALABAMA CITIZENS COUNCIL
IS - X.**

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CAPTAIN, OPERATOR of an Ensley drug store and treasurer of a CIO local, emphasized "the need for young blood and a businessman's philosophy in our public affairs," adding:

"I don't have to tell you the harm that can be done by rigid enforcement of 'blue laws.'"

CARTER, executive secretary of North Alabama Citizens Council, rapped what he referred to as "automatic convictions" in city courts.

"I favor reestablishment of confidence in attorneys in the city courts," Carter declared. "They have told me about automatic convictions. I do not think that politicians should wear convictions like scalps on their belts."

During a windup question-and-answer session, Ed Anderson, member of the club, asked Bradley why he had decided to run for public safety commissioner, after having resigned in the middle of his term as public improvement commissioner.

"I was recalled to the U. S. Air Force at my own request," answered Bradley. "The Department of Public Safety was the office I had aspired to."

"I had become disgusted with the way some of the offices were carried on, and I had about decided to quit politics. But after thinking it over, I decided to come back and make this race."

BRADLEY PROPOSED a 40-hour week for policemen, with Captain likewise urging a 40-hour week.

"I invite you to examine my record at the City Hall," said Bradley. "I believe I established a record for integrity and efficiency."

He said the Police Department needs an efficient, well-organized juvenile division, with at least six policewomen employed to help run it. He commended work of the junior police department.

Captain said he's for expansion of the Art Museum, is for improving the zoo and advocated a youth program.

"I believe in a smooth, efficient and economical operation of the local government of Birmingham, without additional debt or taxes," said Captain. "I will work hard for a solid and



IN RACE FOR POLICE COMMISSIONER

... From left, Bob Lindbergh, Wade Bradley, Joe Captain Jr. and Asa Carter. Not shown is Eugene Connor, also in this race

fair policy between the races. I believe that our problems can be solved without imperiling the welfare of either race."

Carter proposed expressways "like other cities have" to help ease traffic congestion and urged police supervision at school crossings on all streets.

HE RECOMMENDED a police athletic league to help train boys and also urged a police-supervised "hot rod" drag strip.

Carter said he also favors

raising pay of policemen, declaring "some of them have to hold two jobs to keep their families together."

He rapped sale of homes to Negroes in white areas, asserting that some real estate operators were doing this on the Northside and in other sections.

Carter said a legislative committee should be invited to Birmingham "to check into the problem of whether we have federal or local control."



WANTS POLICE JOB—Asa E. (Ace) Carter is a candidate for commissioner of public safety in the May 7 election. His wife and four children are shown in the background at their home.

Meet Your Candidates—

Asa Carter Admirer Of Confederate Heroes

Editor's Note: Here's another in the Post-Herald alphabetical-by-office series on city office candidates.

BY CLARKE STALLWORTH
The youngest son of Asa E. (Ace) Carter is named Bedford Forrest Carter.

There is an indication of the admiration Mr. Carter holds for Confederate heroes of the Civil War—especially for Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, founder of the Ku Klux Klan.

Carter, executive secretary of the North Alabama Citizens Council, is running for the job of commissioner of public safety in Birmingham May 7.

Born in Oxford, near Anniston, Carter was educated at Oxford Elementary School and at Calhoun County High School. He attended the University of Colorado for two and a half years, he says, and then attended the Spear School in Los Angeles, studying radiography.

For many years, the 31-year-old Carter was a radio newsman and a staff radio announcer. He started out with WAZE in Yazoo City, Miss., worked for WSPC in Anniston, KVOD in Denver, Cold, and WILD in Birmingham.

He was married in 1948 to a high school sweetheart, who was born and reared in Anniston.

In the Summer of 1955, Carter quit work as a radio announcer and organized the Eastern Section Citizens Council. Since then, he says, his organization has grown to some 50 councils over the state and some 20,000 members.

During 1956, he was listed as an "adviser" to the newly formed original Ku Klux Klan of the Confederacy.

He is a combat veteran of World War II, with three years in the Navy. He served as a radioman at Okinawa, Leyte Gulf, and in other campaigns.

During his Navy tour of duty, he served on destroyers and on transports.

Recently, Carter was arrested in connection with a shooting during a Ku Klux Klan meeting at the Central Park Theater. Now free on bond, he has been charged with assault with intent to murder.

Several other men are charged with the same offense in connection with the case. The cases are set for May 20 in Circuit Court here.

Carter and his family live at 1962 Bessemer-rd. They have four children, Asa Earl Jr., 6; India Tara, 5; Ralph Walker, 3, and Bedford Forrest, 1.

Carter is a member of the Citizens Council and the V.V.W.

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~~ASA E. CARTER,~~
~~SM - C.~~

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